

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A contribution processing device comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive over a network from a predetermined server ~~content~~ display data for displaying a ~~web page, said web page configured to display~~ a user contribution icon including a contribution button configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to a content provider of a web page associated with said user contribution icon and given in consideration for sharing by the content provider of content data in web page files downloadable from the web page;

a display control unit configured to control a ~~content~~ display screen, said ~~content~~ display screen configured to display the contribution icon and the contribution button;

a contribution acceptance unit configured to provide an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made;

a contribution data creating unit configured to create contribution data that corresponds to a given amount of the contribution after the contribution button is selected on said content display screen; and

a transmitting unit configured to transmit said contribution data created by said contribution data creating unit a contribution managing device over said network.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

said contribution data creating unit is configured to displays a contribution amount selection screen showing a plurality of amounts on said display means in response to the selection of said contribution button, and to create said contribution data corresponding to said amount selected on said contribution amount selection screen.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

said contribution data creating unit is configured to create said contribution data equivalent to an amount which is directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button when the contribution button is selected.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

said contribution data creating data unit is configured to change an amount directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button by the amount more than a fixed minimum amount, according to user's operations when the contribution button is selected, and to create said contribution data equivalent to the changed amount.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A contribution processing method, comprising:
receiving over a network from a predetermined server ~~content~~ display data for displaying ~~a web page, said web page configured to display~~ a user contribution icon including a contribution button configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to a content provider of a web page associated with said user contribution icon and given in

consideration for sharing by the content provider of content data in web page files
downloadable from the web page;

displaying a ~~content~~ display screen displaying the contribution icon and the contribution button;

providing an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made;

creating contribution data that corresponds to a given amount of the contribution after the contribution button is selected on said content display screen; and

transmitting said created contribution data to a contribution managing device over said network.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing method according to Claim 5, wherein said creating comprises:

displaying a contribution amount selection screen which displays a plurality of amounts in response to the selection of said contribution button; and

creating said contribution data equivalent to said amount selected on said contribution amount selection screen.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing method according to Claim 5, wherein said creating comprises:

creating said contribution data equivalent to an amount which is directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button when the contribution button is selected.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing method according to Claim 5, wherein said creating comprises:

changing an amount directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button by the amount more than a fixed minimum amount, according to user's operations when the contribution button is selected; and
creating said contribution data equivalent to the changed amount.

Claims 9-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium to make an information processing device execute a program, wherein

said program performs the function of:

receiving over a network from a predetermined server ~~content~~ display data for displaying ~~a web page, said web page configured to display~~ a user contribution icon including a contribution button configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to a content provider of a web page associated with said user contribution icon and given in consideration for sharing by the content provider of content data in web page files downloadable from the web page;

displaying a ~~content~~ display screen displaying the contribution icon and the contribution button;

providing an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made;

creating contribution data that corresponds to a given amount of the contribution after the contribution button is selected on said content display screen; and

transmitting said created contribution data to a contribution managing device over said network.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The program storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said creating comprises:

displaying a contribution amount selection screen which displays a plurality of amounts in response to the selection of said contribution button; and

creating said contribution data equivalent to said amount selected on said contribution amount selection screen.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The program storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said creating comprises:

creating said contribution data equivalent to an amount which is directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button when the contribution button is selected.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The program storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said creating comprises:

changing an amount directly entered in a contribution amount input area corresponding to said contribution button by the amount more than a fixed minimum amount, according to user's operations when the contribution button is selected; and

creating said contribution data equivalent to the changed amount.

Claims 17-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1,

wherein said contribution data is added to user information corresponding to ~~a user who provides said content~~ the content provider, and a service charge for supplying said content is charged to said user information.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The contribution processing method according to Claim 5,

wherein said contribution data is added to user information corresponding to ~~a user who provides said content~~ the content provider, and a service charge for supplying said content is charged to said user information.

Claims 26-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

said predetermined server comprises the contribution managing device.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

at least a part of said amount of contribution includes an amount of electronic money.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The contribution processing device according to Claim 1, wherein

at least a part of said amount of contribution includes an amount of points if ~~the user~~ as a contributor of the contribution ~~is a~~ comprises said registered user on a service, and

the content provider provides the content to other apparatus including the contribution managing device via the service.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A contribution processing system comprising:

a computer-based apparatus configured to transmit over a network ~~a web page, said web page configured to display~~ a user contribution icon including a contribution button configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to a content provider of a web page associated with said user contribution icon and given in consideration for sharing by the content provider of content data in web page files downloadable from the web page;

said apparatus including,

a contribution amount identification mechanism permitting a contribution amount identified at a user terminal to be selected or entered not lower than a fixed minimum amount,

a display manager configured to provide display information to the user terminal for confirmation of the contribution amount,

a contribution acceptance unit configured to provide an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made; and

a contribution processor configured to apportion said contribution amount to include a service charge, and send an acknowledgement to the user terminal for the contribution amount.